



# R&D at Barry Callebaut

DIRK POELMAN, HEAD OF FUNDAMENTAL R&D



# Content



- ▶ R&D at Barry Callebaut
- ▶ R&D strategy and focus of product development
- ▶ Exploring the health aspects of cocoa polyphenols





# R&D at Barry Callebaut



# R&D at Barry Callebaut

- ▶ **R&D is a key success factor for the successful implementation of our growth strategy.**
  
- ▶ Role of R&D:
  - ▶ Help to create growth opportunities:
    - Creation of new products in response to consumers' changing eating habits
    - Development of new applications
  - ▶ Help to retain existing customers by offering superior service:
    - New products and applications
    - Technical support and customer training
    - Barry Callebaut Institutes
  - ▶ Create cost-saving opportunities:
    - Raw material optimization
    - Process innovation and continuous improvement



# R&D at Barry Callebaut

- ▶ We have two main pillars in the organization. Fundamental R&D is centralized, whereas Applied R&D is done in the local markets.
  - ▶ Global/Regional:
    - 2 centers of excellence for:
      - Fundamental product and process innovation
      - Close cooperation with the Business Units (project selection)
      - Cooperation with Universities and research institutes
  - ▶ Local:
    - Day-to-day product development
    - Product management
    - Technical support engineers
    - BC Institutes in the key markets



# R&D at Barry Callebaut

- ▶ Fundamental product innovation accross the whole Group, interdisciplinary teams under central guidance
  - ▶ Same approach for all Business Units
    - Evaluation of key market trends
    - Strategic priorities per Business Unit
    - Product gaps and new product ideas
      - Priority list for the development projects

- ▶ *But different focus*

**Cocoa**

Raw Mat. Optim.  
New applications

**Food**

**Manufacturers**

Health  
Indulgence  
Raw Mat. Optim.

**Gourmet &  
Specialties**

Convenience  
Health

**Consumer**

Health  
Indulgence  
Raw Mat. Optim.

- ▶ Process and technology development, central team dealing with global agenda



# R&D strategy and focus of product development



# R&D: Strategy

- ▶ **R&D puts special emphasis on health and health-enhancing aspects.**
- ▶ **The three main areas of focus are as follows:**
  1. Normal Chocolate:
    - Make an inventory of the natural health benefits of chocolate and cocoa.
    - Use results from the healthy range to support the normal chocolate.
  2. Healthy / Functional Range:
    - Develop chocolate and cocoa products where the natural benefits are strengthened (Polyphenols, Stearic Acid, Melanoidines).
    - Work with external specialists to get scientific endorsement.
  3. “Guilt-free” or “better for you” Range of Products:
    - Develop chocolate and cocoa products where the undesirable effects of fat and sugar have been reduced or eliminated.





# Product development focus: Healthy / Functional products (1)

- ▶ Polyphenols and Melanoidines:
  - Properties to be studied:
    - Anti-aging (long term memory, activity levels and concentration).
    - Protection against Cancer.
    - Cardiovascular (blood pressure & cholesterol).
    - Immune system.
  - Products:
    - High polyphenol content dark chocolate (normal and sugar free).
      - Daily consumption; bite size; easy to handle.
    - Cocoa & Chocolate Drinks with high polyphenol content (normal and sugar free).
      - Daily consumption; portion pack; easy to handle.
    - Polyphenol extract.
      - As a food supplement.
      - For cosmetics.



# Product development focus: Healthy / Functional products (2)

- ▶ Cocoa Butter: Stearic Acids / oleic acids.
  - Properties to be studied (Co-operation with University of Ghent):
    - Blood pressure.
    - Cholesterol.
    - Fewer calories – low calorie absorption.
  - Products:
    - Healthy Mycryo Butter.
      - Bake-stable fat for baking.
      - Gelatine replacement for confectionery.
      - Low calorie version.
    - Oil or fat for baking.
      - E.g. French Fries (no smell, bake-stable).
    - Low calorie chocolate.



# Product development focus: “Guilt-free” or “better for you” products

## ▶ Sugar:

- Properties:
  - Achieve the same taste sensation with less or no sugar.
  - Low Glycaemic index.
  - Low Carbohydrates.
- Products:
  - Sugar reduced; without added sugar and sugar-free (dark and milk).
  - Full product range.

## ▶ Fat / Cocoa Butter:

- Properties:
  - Achieve the same taste sensation with fewer calories or lower calorie absorption.
  - Low Glycaemic index.
- Products:
  - Full product range.

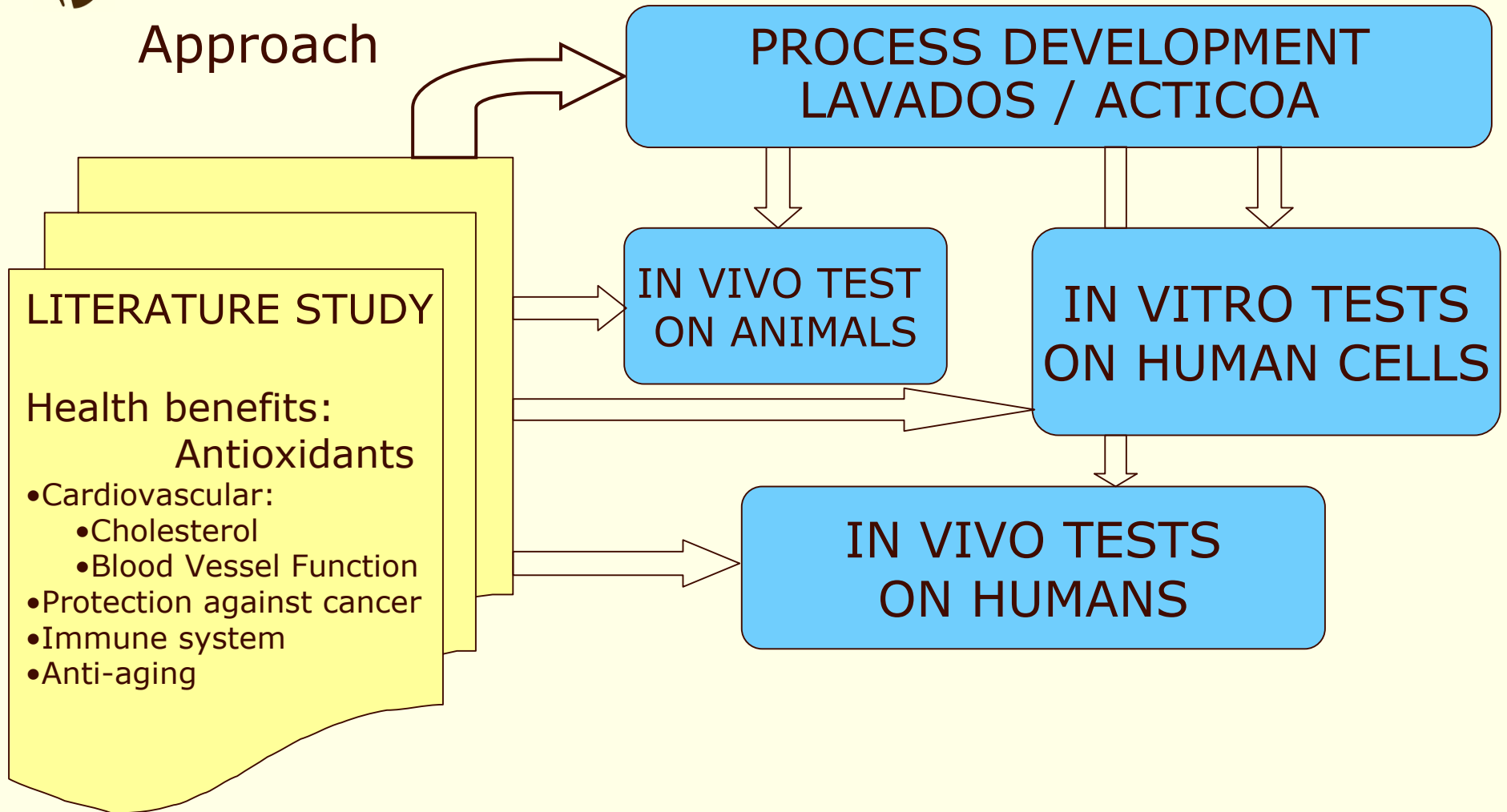


# Polyphenol studies – a preview of work in progress

# Exploring the natural health benefits of cocoa



Approach



# In-vitro tests on human cancer cells (1)



- ▶ In a lab environment the impact of cocoa polyphenols (compared to Beta-Sitosterol) was tested on:
  - Healthy prostate cells.
  - Local prostate cancer cells.
  - Metastasis prostate cancer cells (migrated cancer cells from the brain)
  
- ▶ Tests were done:
  - In different concentrations.
  - For different contact times.

# In-vitro tests on human cancer cells (2)



## Conclusions:

- ▶ Local prostate cancer cells.
  - IC50 was achieved after 1 hr. for the polyphenol extracts.
  - IC50 only achieved after 48 hrs. for Beta-sitosterol.
  
- ▶ Metastasis prostate cancer cells.
  - IC50 was achieved after 24 hrs. for the polyphenol extracts.
  - IC50 was not achieved for Beta-sitosterol.
  
- ▶ Healthy prostate cells.
  - No impact of the polyphenol extracts before 48 hrs.

# In-vivo tests on animals (1)



- ▶ Five groups of 15 male rats

Group	Treatment	Dose
Control	-	-
Vehicle	Placebo	-
Chemo-induced vehicle	Placebo	-
Chemo-induced + CPE 24	Cocoa Polyphenols	24 mg/kg, P.O.
Chemo-induced + CPE 48	Cocoa Polyphenols	48 mg/kg, P.O.

## ▶ Cognitive tests

- ALSAT: performed 2, 4, 6 and 8 months after the induction of prostate tumors,
- Morris water maze: performed 5 and 8 months after the induction of prostate tumors.



# In-vivo tests on animals (2)



## Conclusions:

After 12 months the rats induced with cancer cells and treated with polyphenol extract did not have cancer.

- ▶ Cocoa polyphenols slow down the effects of aging.
  - Long term memory
  - General activity levels.
  - Concentration.
- ▶ Dosage is important.
  - Best results with 24 mg/kg (compared to 48mg/kg).
- ▶ Additional results.
  - Treatment of the non-induced rats with polyphenols after 12 months showed a significant positive impact on cognitive results.

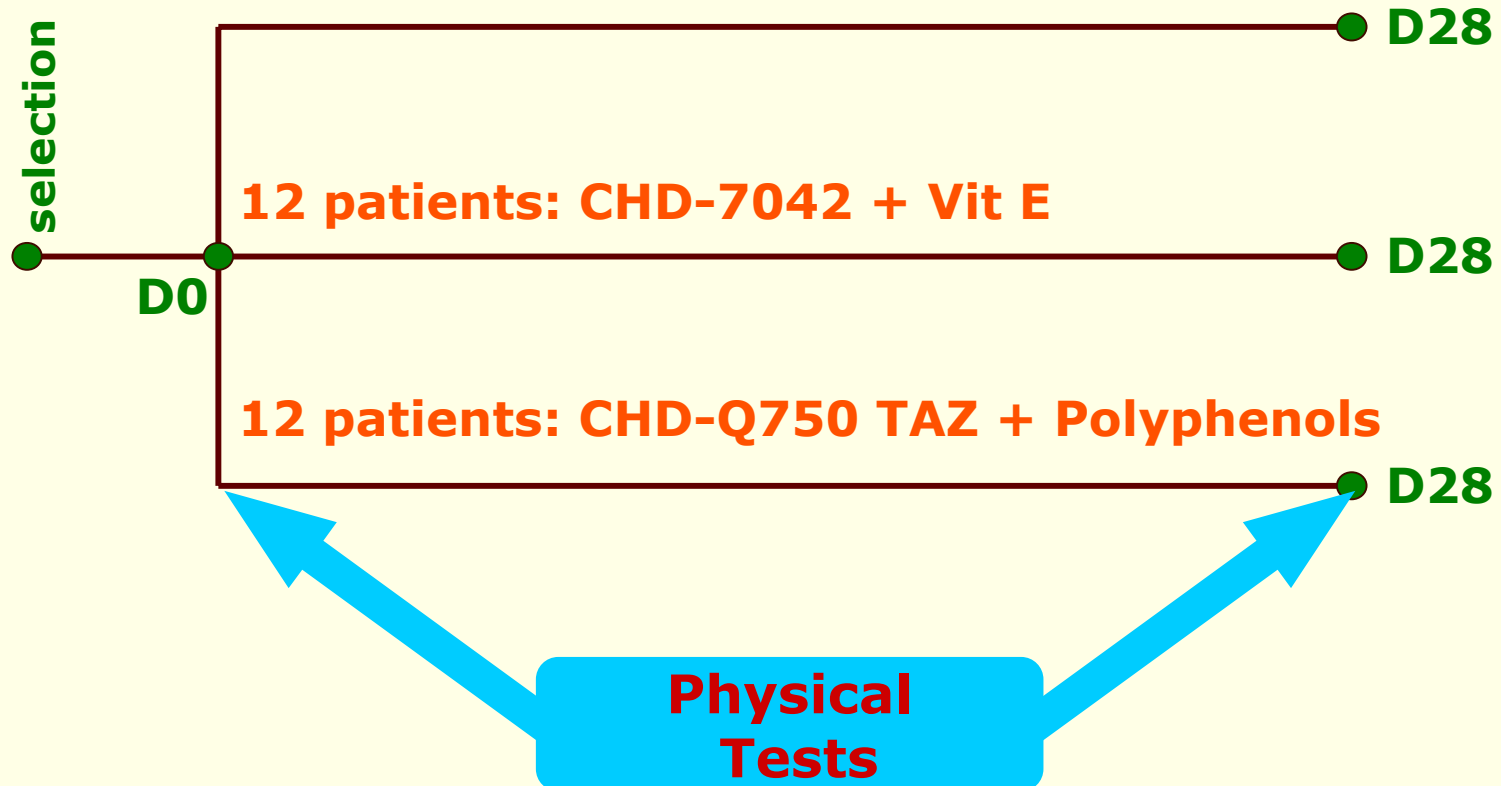
# In-vivo test on humans



## Test Set-up

As simple and exhaustive as possible

**12 patients: CHD-Q7042**



# In-vivo test on humans



## **Conclusion:**

- ▶ The group receiving polyphenol chocolate showed a significant decrease in Malondialdehyde (MDA) after 28 days.
- ▶ MDA is an indicator for oxidation reactions.
- ▶ This would suggest that less oxidation has occurred in the people that received the polyphenol chocolate.
- ▶ Further testing planned.



# Next steps in our work in progress

- ▶ R&D level
  - Finalizing internal studies.
  - Contacts with university hospitals specialized in cancer treatment and ageing diseases.
  - Tests on humans for specific properties.
    - Project with university hospitals on prostate cancer and cardiovascular diseases.
    - Projects with specialized research centers & universities on Aging & Stress.
  - Foundation of a Scientific Advisory Board
  
- ▶ Product development level
  - Chocolate rich in polyphenol will be launched in Belgium (Apr 05) and in Germany (May 05).
  - Cocoa and Chocolate drinks under development.
  - Further product development and introduction.



# Q&A

---